

Advisory Committee Meeting

Tuesday, September 7, 2010

Attendees:

Committee Chair - Bill Theis
Town Chair – not present
Town Treasurer – not present
Town Secretary – Elaine Hickey
Trustees – Connee McKinney, Mike Curtis
Archives –not present
Audit - Cookie Ohlson
Budget-Jeffrey Politis
Buzz Ware Village Center – Warren Rosenkranz
Civic – Ed Rohrbach
Community Planning – Ray Seigfried
Forest – Elizabeth Varley
Playground – Larry Walker
Registration – Debbie Theis
Safety – Denis O'Regan

Chair Bill Theis called the meeting to order at 7:42 PM and asked the committee representatives if they would be making any Motions at the next Town Meeting on Sept. 27.

Motions for Town Meeting:

PLAYGROUND – Larry Walker would like to make a motion for the Town to support the transfer of funds in the amount of \$1300 from the Gild Hall rental to the Playground Committee for their project to renovate the playground area at the Millers Rd. end of the Village Green. This request will have to go through the Town Officers for approval to transfer the money. Bill Theis will ask Town Chair if this needs to be presented as a Motion at Town Meeting.

Committee Reports:

SAFETY- Denis O'Regan will present their report.

REGISTRATION – Debbie Theis asked the Town Secretary to ensure that there are enough of the #9 and #10 envelopes on hand for the Referendum mailing.

Marianne Cinaglia will very likely present a Motion on an Absentee Voting procedure. If the Motion passes the Registration Committee will carry out the procedure. Town Chair Steven Threefoot received a letter from Delaware AG Beau Biden saying that our Absentee Voting procedure must be in line with the State requirements.

PLAYGROUND – Larry Walker will report on playground inspections.

FOREST – Elizabeth Varley. The Committee received the grants for which they applied. They need to touch base with the Civic Committee to make sure any water run off from the tree planting and landscaping project is dealt with properly.

COMMUNITY PLANNING – Ray Seigfried will give an update on the progress being made with Instant Ticketing and Vacant Houses issues, and will present recommendations.

In light of the recent automobile accident on Harvey Rd. that caused considerable damage to the Memorial Garden stone wall, Ray asked if traffic control issues on Harvey Rd. should be brought up at Town Meeting. The consensus was no, since it has already been brought up many times and nothing gets done.

CIVIC – Ed Rohrbach said Civic will present a report.

BUZZ WARE VILLAGE CENTER – Warren Rosenkranz had nothing for discussion.

BUDGET - Jeffrey Politis distributed the projected three-year Budget. He asked those present to look at the 2011-2012 Budget to see if the numbers are correct for their committees. He brought attention to the non-Budgeted Expenses. The BWVC Operating Expenses and the Village Subsidy are in non-Budgeted Expenses and not voted on. Jeffrey put this up for discussion. Secondly, the Capital & Repair Fund will fall under Town Expenses. This fund should be collected over 3-5 years in order to accumulate a significant reserve. Should it be a Budgeted or non-Budgeted item?

After much discussion the Advisory Committee felt that the \$7,000 that is designated for the Town to give to the BWVC and the \$10,000 Capital & Repair Fund should both go in the Budgeted items category and be voted on in Referendum.

AUDIT – Cookie Ohlson will give her report.

ARCHIVES – Not present.

TRUSTEES – Connee McKinney gave Jeffrey an update their budget categories. The Trustees' Assistant's salary is folded into Operations & Fees to keep in line with the Fair Labor Laws.

There will be a report on the County taxes.

There have been a number of requests for garages to be placed in front of the main dwelling unit. There are already many current exceptions to the County code in Arden, so the Trustees have decided to grant a variance for a garage in front of a dwelling as long as it is within the setback requirement.

Mike Curtis reported that Arden's Tulip Poplars are all at least 150 ft. tall now and they are shallow rooted. The Trustees will be giving permission to cut them down if requested.

TREASURER – Not present

TOWN CHAIR - Not present

The Community Planning Committee will provide refreshments for the 9/27/10 Town Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Elaine Hickey
Secretary, Village of Arden